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BOX PCT
531 Rec'd PCT/PTC 27 DEC 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of : Frans Eduard Janssens *et al.*

5 **Intl. Appln. No.** : PCT/EP00/05675 **Group No.** : Not Yet Assigned

Intl. Filing Date : 20 June 2000 **Examiner** : Not Yet Assigned

For : Respiratory Syncytial Virus Replication Inhibitors

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BOX PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

15 Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

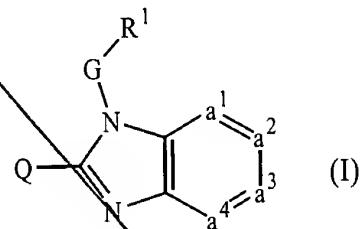
Prior to action on the merits, applicants request that the above-identified application be amended.

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In the claims:

Please amend claims 1-17 as follows:

25 1. A compound of formula



a prodrug, N-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof wherein

$-a^1 = a^2 - a^3 = a^4$ - represents a bivalent radical of formula